

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re application of: **Takeo TANAAMI, et al.**

Serial No.: **Not Yet Assigned**

Filed: **March 18, 2002**

For: **BIOCHIP READER**

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

March 18, 2002

Sir:

Prior to the calculation of the filing fees of the above application, please amend the application as follows:

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please amend Claim 15 as follows:

15. (Amended) A biochip reader in accordance with claim 12 or 13, wherein a zoom mechanism for changing the light intensity distribution of excitation light from said light source corresponding to expression of genes on said biochip, is provided.

REMARKS

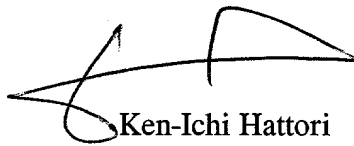
The above amendment to the claims have been made to place the application in better condition for examination.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the claims by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned "Version with markings to show changes made."

In the event there are any additional fees required, please charge our Deposit Account No. 01-2340.

Respectfully submitted,

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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES NAME

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claim15 has been amended as follows:

15. A biochip reader in accordance with ~~any of claims 12 to 14~~ claim 12 or 13,  
wherein a zoom mechanism for changing the light intensity distribution of excitation light from  
said light source corresponding to expression of genes on said biochip, is provided.